

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

ICA-11 HA-05 AF-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 TRSE-00

HEW-04 AID-05 OMB-01 /135 W

-----111752 290154Z /20

R 272129Z JUL 78

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2675

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE USUN NEW YORK 03029

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PORG, SHUM, UNHRC, CS

SUBJECT: COSTA RICAN INITIATIVE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

HIGH COMMISSIONER AT 33RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

REF: A) USUN 2882, B) USUN 2990, C) USUN 2857

1. IN CONVERSATION ON BROAD RANGE OF MATTERS, NEW COSTA RICAN PERM REP (PIZA ESCALANTE) MADE A POINT OF SAYING TO MISOFF ON JULY 26 THAT "HE WAS GLAD THIS CHANNEL OF COMMUNICATION ON THE HIGH COMMISSIONER PROPOSAL HAD BEEN OPENED UP," AND THAT HE WANTED TO EMPHASIZE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

- --COSTA RICA HAD INSCRIBED THE AGENDA ITEM TO
- STIR UP SOME EXCITEMENT IN HUMAN RIGHTS.
- --COSTA RICA WOULD BEGIN TO SEEK CO-SPONSORS
- FOR THE PROPOSAL IN AUGUST, AND IT WOULD
- APPROACH THE US ONLY AFTER SEVERAL OTHERS
- HAD AGREED TO CO-SPONSOR.
- --COSTA RICA WOULD MAKE CLEAR IN ITS GA STATE-

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- MENTS THAT IT WAS INTERESTED IN THE CONCEPT
- OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AND WAS NOT
- NECESSARILY WEDDED TO THE NAME ITSELF.
- --COSTA RICA UNDERSTANDS THAT THE MOVE
- WILL PROBABLY BE DEFERRED TO THE "OVERALL
- ANALYSIS" THAT WILL BE CONDUCTED BY THE HUMAN
- RIGHTS COMMISSION IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH OF 1979.

2. MISOFF REPLIED THAT THE US WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT WELL INFORMED ON COSTA RICAN THINKING; THE US STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE GENERAL CONCEPT OF A HIGH COMMISSIONER; AND HOPES THAT BY THE OCTOBER 31ST DEADLINE COSTA RICA WILL SUBMIT A STRONG PAPER ADVOCATING THE HIGH COMMISSIONER AS ITS CONTRIBUTION TO THE OVERALL ANALYSIS. MISOFF WENT ON TO SUGGEST THAT FOR THE SAME PURPOSE THE COSTA RICANS ALSO EXPLORE THE IDEA OF AN INTERNATIONAL COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS--AN IDEA THAT HAS BEEN ADVOCATED BY FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER OF THE FRG FOR THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS--GIVEN COSTA RICA'S LONG INTEREST IN SUCH A COURT. PIZA ESCALANTE WARMED TO THIS IDEA, AND TOLD MISOFF HE HAD JUST BEEN INFORMED THAT HE HAD BEEN NOMINATED TO BE THE COSTA RICAN MEMBER OF THE INTER-AMERICAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS, WHOSE HEAD-QUARTERS WILL BE IN SAN JOSE.

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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